

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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received
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Brackett, Lyman M., House

and or common L. M. Brackett House

2. Location

street & number 328 W. Ninth Street N/A not for publication

city, town Rochester N/A vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Fulton code 049

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Carl F. Landskron, Jr.

street & number 328 W. Ninth Street

city, town Rochester N/A vicinity of state Indiana 46975

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Fulton County Court House

street & number Court House Square

city, town Rochester state Indiana 46975

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	X original site
X good	ruins	X altered	moved date
fair	unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Lyman M. Brackett House is a fine example of Queen Anne architecture in Fulton County. Irregular in plan, the 1884-86 house is a 2½ story structure with the original exterior surface consisting of lap siding, imbricated shingles and wood panels; it has a stone foundation and a gabled slate roof. The house consists of a main, multi-gabled structure, an octagonal tower at the west corner and an open brick porch extending across the west half of the main facade and around the corner.

The main (north) facade has four bays across the first level, plus an octagonal tower at the west corner. The two main entrances, which are not original, are centrally located. The entries lead to two apartments which presently make up the house. The doors are positioned about six to eight inches apart and are surrounded by wood molding. According to drawings, the original entrance was made up of paired doors with wood panels below and single lights above. Of the present doors, one is wood with a glazed wood storm door, flanked by multiple sidelights; the other door is protected by an aluminum storm door.

East of the entrances there are two windows with wood lintels (decorated with wood "buttons"), wood side molding, and a continuous wood sill. A large, square, fixed sash window with a single light and a rectangular stained glass transom is next to the entries. A smaller end window is positioned at a slight angle to this center window and is a rectangular double-hung sash with one light in each sash, and a stained glass transom. A molded wood panel is below the windows.

A projecting, shingled cornice band continues around the building and separates the main floor from the second floor, which has five bays on the main facade. The area above the main entries is recessed where a small porch is built. Two, free-standing, turned wood posts and one engaged wood post extend from above the porch. Originally there was an identical free standing post at the west edge of the porch and decorative wood panels below the porch cornice. The porch has a wood framed door with multiple lights.

To the east, coupled windows are located directly above the main level's larger window, and are flanked by two windows set at a slight angle. The windows, with wood surrounds, are rectangular, double-hung sash with single lights and stained glass transoms. A cornice decorated with a series of dentils extends around the structure and separates the second floor from the attic level.

The attic is located in the gabled areas and displays a connected grouping of five identical double-hung sash windows with multiple, diamond-paned upper lights and single lower lights. They have a decorated wood lintel, molded wood side surrounds, and a wood sill. Above the windows there is a modillioned cornice; the area between the cornice and the gable peak is intricately decorated with wood "buttons" set in framed squares.

The octagonal tower, located on the west side of the front facade, extends 2½ stories high. The main tower facade has three windows on each level with the end windows flanking the center one at a slight angle. The windows on the first two levels are rectangular, double-hung sash with single lights and stained glass transoms. A shingled cornice band separates the second level from the attic, which has double-hung sash windows with 15 upper lights and single lower lights. The tower is capped by a pyramidal slate roof with a pinnacle, which originally had a finial above it.

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The open brick porch, which extends across the west side of the main facade and around the corner, is not original. Square brick columns support a decorated pediment, to match the upper gable, above the main entrances. Concrete stairs framed by stepped brick buttresses lead to the front porch and entries. The original porch sheltered the same area, but was supported by turned wood posts and featured decorative wood spindlework.

About half way back from the main facade, the house projects one bay on the east side. On the first level is a fixed sash window with single light; it has a decorated wood lintel, wood side surrounds, and a wood sill. Directly above there is a double-hung sash with one light in each sash and wood surrounds. Other window styles on the house include a double window with an arched stained glass transom, and several double-hung, one-over-one sash.

Another one story porch extends off the rear east side of the house; it is enclosed on the back side and has a square brick pillar supporting the front corner of the roof. This replaced an original porch, and a back porch has been enclosed.

The slate roof has a number of gables and some ornamental cresting. (Originally, there were finials atop some of the gable peaks.) There are two interior chimneys; one is offset on the rear east side of the house, and the other on the front west side.

The property also has a carriage house with lap siding and shingled exterior. It has been reroofed with an asphalt hipped roof, and a concrete floor has been poured.

The house in its original plans had 13 rooms in all. The home was converted to three apartments in the late 1940's or early 1950's. The wall and pocket doors dividing the front and rear parlor were removed, so at present the house has 12 rooms. Around 1967 it was changed into two apartments, one being a rental and the other to be lived in by the owners.

In the conversion, much of the original woodwork and trim was used to accommodate the changes. Two more baths were added by using the water closets on the first and second floors.

The interior rooms are arranged freely throughout the home. The floors in the reception hall, dining room, lower chamber, parlors, and the vestibule are of oak parquetry. The remaining floors are made of Red Oak, Quarter White Oak, Poplar, Curly Maple, Southern Pine, and Butternut. The woodwork and trim is mainly Oak. The wainscot in the bath, dining room and kitchen is missing, with only a partial plate rail remaining in the dining room; also, the dining room now has a kitchen on the west side. The former kitchen is now paneled and used as a bedroom.

The house has 22 stained, leaded glass windows, 10 located in the tower. At some point in time, others were taken out and used in another residence. One, in particular, was the huge staircase window. The arched stained glass is still there; however, the lower two windows were replaced with plate glass. The staircase is now enclosed. Much of the original banister is still in place. The house has three oak-trimmed fireplaces, one in the reception hall, one in the rear parlor in the west corner and the third in the dining room. All have ceramic surrounds and hearths.

The house is still heated by direct radiation. A new gas hot water boiler was installed about 1959.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
prehistoric	archeology-prehistoric	community planning	landscape architecture	religion
1400-1499	archeology-historic	conservation	law	science
1500-1599	agriculture	economics	literature	sculpture
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	education	military	social/
1700-1799	art	engineering	music	humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	exploration settlement	philosophy	theater
1900-	communications	industry	politics government	transportation
		invention		other (specify)

Specific dates 1884-86 **Builder Architect** Joseph E. Mills, Detroit

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Lyman M. Brackett house has the significance of being one of the finest residences to be built in the city during the late 19th century. Because of the fine materials and construction, the house has remained structurally sound. It is also significant as the residence of one of Rochester's early prominent citizens.

L. M. Brackett was born September 9, 1854, on a farm north of Rochester. He was the son of Dr. Charles Brackett and Margaret Wilson Brackett. He went to the Rochester public school, then went to Earlham College and graduated from Bryant and Stratton Commercial College of Chicago.

Lyman's father died in 1863 and later his mother remarried to E. E. Cowgill, owner of a lumber yard where Lyman was hired in 1875 as bookkeeper. In 1877 Lyman became a partner in the business. After Cowgill's death in 1882, Lyman became a partner with A. Barrett. The lumber business was very successful and Lyman soon became greatly respected in the city.

Lyman sold his interest in the lumber yard in 1886 and opened a wholesale grocery business. Besides this, he became President of City State Bank, Vice President of the Rochester Telephone Company, served on the city school board, was trustee of the Baptist church, and was also honored with the nomination for Presidential elector in 1892 on the Harrison ticket. Lyman also owned the Arlington Hotel and many other business properties in the city.

After Mr. Brackett's death in 1928, the house was sold to Mary Riggs Quick, who converted the home into apartments. She still retains the original blueprints and specifications to the home. She lived in the home until about 1967 and since then it has had several owners. At present, the home has one rental, and the rest is a private residence.

The Lyman M. Brackett House is a fine example of Queen Anne architecture which, except for the front porch, retains a high degree of integrity. Irregular in plan, it manifests the distinctive characteristics of the style, including a certain freedom of design with projecting bays, numerous porches, variety in window design, and a corner tower. It has the typical variety of exterior surface materials, a complex roofline of gables, and a pyramidal tower roof. Stained glass transoms and ornate wood panels add to the richness of the style. Particularly unusual is the survival of the roof cresting, a detail that has often been lost by other houses of this style and period.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Rochester

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	5	6	5	6	2	0	4	5	4	6	0	8	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 439 and a strip of uniform width of 17.5 feet off the West side of lot 440 in Lyons and Kendrick's Addition to Rochester.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carl and Chris Landskron

organization N/A date 2-21-84

street & number 328 W. 9th Street telephone 219/223-6088

city or town Rochester state Indiana 46975

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *John T. Costello*

title Deputy Director, Dept. of Natural Resources date 8-17-84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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The Rochester Sentinel, Friday, September 20, 1895.

Director of Rochester, Indiana, 1907, compiled and published by H. F. Crem & A. T. Bitters.

Rochester Directory & Fulton County Gazetteer, 1911, A. Bitters, Editor & Publisher.

Fulton County Cemetery Inscriptions, Vol. 4, Rochester Twp. and City.

Tombaugh, J. & W. Fulton County, Indiana, History. Peatte, Tombaugh.

Lyman Brackett House
Rochester, Indiana
UTM Ref.: 16/565620/4546080

